

REMARKS

The applicant affirms the election of apparatus Claims 1-8, 15, 16, and 18-25 for prosecution. The non-elected claims have been cancelled.

Independent Claim 1 defines the invention as a multi-layered molding material including a layer of a fibrous reinforcement material and a layer of a reinforcement resin material engaged with the layer of fibrous reinforcement material. The layer of reinforcement resin material has an inherent tack that holds the fibrous reinforcement material in place relative to the layer of fibrous reinforcement material, and the reinforcement material is at least partially dry with respect to the reinforcement resin. The reinforcement resin material includes a venting structure having venting channels for conducting gases in directions both parallel to the plane of the reinforcement layer and perpendicular thereto to allow gases to pass out of the molding material via the reinforcement layer during processing to prevent entrapment of gases. Similarly, independent Claim 18 defines the invention as a multi-layered molding material including a layer of a reinforcement material and a layer of a resin material engaged with the layer of fibrous reinforcement material. The resin material includes a venting structure to allow gases to pass out of said molding material via the reinforcement layer during processing.

None of the art of record shows or suggests these structures. Specifically, the Rolston reference does not show or suggest a layer of a fibrous reinforcement material and a layer of a reinforcement resin material engaged with the layer of fibrous reinforcement material, as recited in Claims 1 and 18. Additionally, the Rolston reference does not show or suggest a layer of reinforcement resin material has an inherent tack that holds the fibrous reinforcement material in place relative to the layer

of fibrous reinforcement material, as recited in Claim 1. Thus, it is believed that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard S. MacMillan", written over a horizontal line.

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